

Inmates Spruce Up Fairgrounds

August 5, 2013 By WICS-TV



Inmates from the Illinois Department of Corrections (left) work on the grounds of the Illinois State Fair, under the watchful eye of one of numerous IDOC correctional officers (right).

The Illinois State Fair is right around the corner, with little time left to spruce up the grounds.

But, with the help of a dozen select inmates from the Logan Correctional Center, groundskeepers told us, everything is sure to be finished on time.

The men grow and plant the flowers at the state fairgrounds. The year, they have planted 125,000 annuals in more than 200 flower beds.

"No, you couldn't possibly get this done without them," said Jerry Morgan of the Department of Agriculture.

"No way. I mean, I guess you could, but the expense, you know, there's no way you could afford it."

Grounds officials also said the crews take a lot of pride in the work they are doing and that the fairgrounds will be ready in time for Thursday's opening.